IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of	)	
	)	
Patrick Miles, et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 3734
	)	
App. Ser. No. 10/682,568	)	
	)	Examiner: Vi Nguyen
Filed: October 8, 2003	)	
	)	
For: Surgical Access System and Related Methods	)	
	)	

Certificate of Transmission: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-Web on November 14, 2008:

Signature:

Name: Rory Schermerhorn

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-FULLY RESPONSIVE REPLY

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed on August 14, 2008, having a one-month shortened period for response that expired on September 14, 2008 the Examiner indicated that the reply filed on June 9, 2008 together with an RCE, was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action. In response, the Applicants are submitting this supplemental reply including amendments to the specification and claims, supplemental remarks, and a terminal disclaimer. Please amend the above-caption application as follows: